



# Stateline

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## KEEPING THE CAPITOL COMPLEX BEAUTIFUL DESPITE WATER RESTRICTIONS

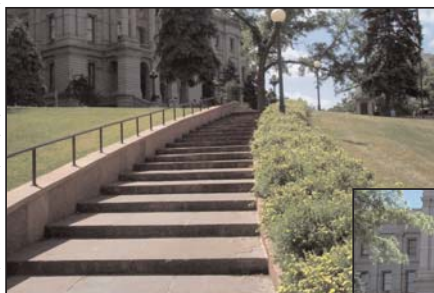
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Even though the State was fortunate to receive some late spring snowstorms bringing much needed moisture, Colorado's drought conditions are far from being over. The good news is that much of Colorado has experienced average or above average snow-pack levels in the high country this season. However, it will still take at least two more years of similar precipitation levels to fill most of Colorado's major reservoirs. With this in mind and in anticipation of another hot, dry summer, the Department of Personnel & Administration (DPA) has taken several steps to manage our water resources more efficiently.

Since April of this year, DPA has reduced the number of vehicle washes by over 50% for both State Fleet and non-State Fleet vehicles. Our Motor Pool is now limiting washes to no more than twice per month and will continue to do so until the State's drought situation has passed. Previously the vehicles were washed whenever they got dirty to keep them in the best possible condition for our downtown customers. The vehicles may not be as clean on the outside as our customers are used to, but we will make every effort to ensure that the interior is maintained to our same high standards. We think this is a small price to pay for doing all we can to ease the water burden on the state, and to set an example for others.

Also this spring, DPA's Capitol Complex, the unit responsible for the maintenance of 14 state

buildings and 7½ acres, installed new sprinkler clocks. These clocks provide more reliable control of the irrigation systems, reduce unnecessary watering, and enhance our ability to confirm watering times and check irrigation zones.



*The Capitol Complex Ground Crew is working hard to keep the State Capitol Grounds and Lincoln Park in shape while remaining within water restriction guidelines.*

Additionally, we have purchased smaller nozzles for the sprinkler pop-ups limiting the amount of over-spray along the parkways and added new sprinklers to increase coverage and decrease run times for some zones.

Finally, this year Capitol Complex will be planting only 1/3 of the flowers usually found around the Complex. Most of the flowers will be placed around the Capitol and at Lincoln Park due to the high public visibility. The remainder will be placed in

beds throughout the Complex supplemented by mulch to enhance the ability to retain water.

In addition to creating a more efficient landscaping environment, Viron, our performance contractor, is in the process of auditing our water and plumbing systems. Bret Thomas, Viron Project Director, believes we can achieve a 25-50% reduction in water usage by replacing older toilet fixtures with low flow units, installing electronic flushing devices and low flow faucets.

DPA will continue with its efforts to identify any other areas where water consumption can be reduced without compromising the value we provide to our customers. I invite all other state departments to voluntarily adopt similar measures as DPA. It is our hope that through effective water management and planning the State will not only survive the current conditions, but also learn to be more efficient for the years to come.



*As Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Personnel & Administration, Troy A. Eid is the chief administrative officer for Colorado's \$13.6 billion state government.*